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3rd MAW controls Iraqi skies



Lance Cpl. Hunter Schott raises the American flag Feb. 6, in front of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) Tactical Air Command Center at AI Asad, Iraq. Schott, an Atlanta native, is currently attached as a member of the TACC security detachment, Marine 3rd MAW (Fwd). Photo by Staff Sgt. Chad McMeen

Story by Staff Sgt. Chad McMeen

3rd Marine Aircraft Wing

AL ASAD, Iraq - After months of training and preparation, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), is now once again in control of the skies over western Iraq.

Authority was transferred from 2nd MAW (Fwd) to 3rd MAW (Fwd), Feb. 7, almost exactly one year from the time responsibility was left in the capable hands of their East Coast counterpart.

"Second MAW (Fwd) has set us up for continued success. Thanks to their efforts, our ability to support ground and logistics units has improved tremendously," said Col. Jonathan G. Miclot, commanding officer, 3rd MAW (Fwd). "Our focus remains on continuing the steady improvement in facilities and processes."

Many logistical changes have taken place over the past year but according to Miclot, the primary mission of the MAW has not changed significantly.

"I've noticed improvements in base security and quality of living. The security is tighter with more barriers, guard personnel and the use of technical surveillance measures," said Miclot, a U.S. Naval Academy graduate.

The 3rd MAW (Fwd) area of responsibility includes the Al Anbar Province in western Iraq, and the staff has now received a detailed turnover of the mission.

'Our overall goal is to continue to provide the spectrum of support Marine aviation brings to the Marine Air Ground Task Force that is I MEF (Fwd) – from assault support sorties, transporting personnel, equipment and supplies to the outlying bases, to real-time reconnaissance for units engaged in counterinsurgency operations. Our success will be measured in how well we assist the Iraqis in standing up internal security forces, so they can control their own destiny."

Third MAW (Fwd) includes Marine Aircraft Group 16, Marine Wing Support Group 37, Marine Air Control Group 38 Detachment, several logistics and support squadrons and a headquarters element. This combination ensures the MAW is completely self-supporting and successful in this remote desert base.

Inside

Weekend forecast from Miramar's weather station



Today







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DoD reviews Katrina lessons learned

Story by Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The Department of Defense is applying lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina to build its capabilities to respond to similar or even bigger catastrophes within the United States, defense and military leaders who oversaw the military response told Congress, Feb. 9.

U.S. military forces executed "the largest, fastest, most comprehensive and most responsive civil support mission ever," Paul McHale, assistant secretary of defense for homeland defense, told the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

He credited the 72,000 active-duty, National Guard and reserve members who responded, particularly at a time of large-scale deployments supporting the war on terrorism, as a testament to the readiness, agility and professionalism of the force.

DoD prepared its initial response to Katrina while it was still swirling in the Caribbean and moved in to the afflicted region within hours after it made landfall, McHale told the committee.

U.S. Northern Command, the DoD command responsible for homeland missions, began tracking Katrina while it was still a tropical storm, Navy Adm. Timothy Keating, NORTHCOM commander, told the senators. Even before the hurricane made landfall last Aug. 29 or federal agencies requested help, NORTHCOM received DoD authority to deploy the forces needed to save lives and reduce suffering, Keating said.

"We were extremely proactive," McHale told the committee.

A Government Accountability Office report issued Feb. 1 confirms McHale's assessment. While the federal government generally waited for the affected states to ask for help, the report notes, "some federal responders such as the Coast Guard and DoD did 'lean forward' in proactive efforts anticipating a major disaster."

National Guard soldiers and airmen were on duty as quickly as hurricane-force winds cleared the area, Army Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum, chief of the National Guard Bureau, reported. Within 24 hours, 9,700 Guard members were in New Orleans alone, and within 96 hours of the storm's passing, more than 30,000 more Guard troops had deployed, he said.

"We did not wait. We anticipated needs, we responded immediately, and I feel, very effectively," Blum said. "The National Guard delivered when and where we were needed."

Ultimately, more than 50,000 National Guard

troops from all 50 states and several U.S. territories responded in what Blum called "the largest National Guard domestic response force in the history of our nation."

"It wasn't by accident that the Guard forces got there in large numbers ahead of the active forces," McHale told the committee. "For domestic missions, it makes a great deal of sense to rely primarily on the National Guard" and to augment it with active-duty forces as needed, he said.

More than 22,000 active-duty members also supported Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.

"The ability of our armed forces to react to such a devastating hurricane speaks volumes to the readiness, professionalism and training of our active-duty, Reserve and National Guard forces," Army Lt. Gen. Russel Honore, commander of Joint Task Force Katrina, told the committee.

These troops performed efficiently and effectively, in collaboration with local, state and federal agencies under extremely austere conditions, he said.

Army Maj. Gen. Bennett Landrenau, adjutant general for Louisiana, expressed gratitude to all who came to his state's aid in its time of need. "In the face of our nation's greatest natural disaster, the heart and soul of this country launched the greatest response and outpouring of support ever witnessed on American soil," he said.

Landrenau praised the cooperative spirit with which each military component operated during the crisis. He dismissed suggestions that the response might have gone smoother with a single, "dual-hatted" commander controlling state and federal forces.

"We did, in fact, reach unity of effort, each component working toward a common goal, while maintaining unique chains of command," Landrenau told the committee. "We had developed a multi-component command operating under the legal authorities of Title 10, 14 and 32 of the U.S. Code, all in support of the governor of Louisiana." The Coast Guard operates under Title 14 of the U.S. Code.

While Hurricane Katrina demonstrated the capabilities of the military in disaster response, it also demonstrated some shortcomings, McHale said. "We did very well," he said. "But we must do better."

McHale recommended that DoD:

Get faster, more accurate ways to conduct damage assessments; achieve a unity of effort when multiple federal agencies converge on an affected area; improve communication with first responders and emergency management personnel; integrate both active- and reserve-component capabilities into planning for catastrophic events as well as on-the-scene operations; and

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Visit the new Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Web site at:

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MiramarkS

"How would you rate the military's response to Hurricane Katrina?"

SGT. BRIAN WALKER
SACO
MALS-11

"I think the military did a pretty good job. The people in Louisiana may think they didn't, but they got the people the supplies they needed to survive."



CPL. TIMOTHY HUCAL
Patrolman
PMO

"The military responded to the disaster faster than the local authorities. The military did a great job rescuing people."





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Commanding General

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Public Affairs Chief

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> Cpl. Paul Leicht Layout



A Marine with the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing and his wife talk to local San Diego media Feb. 11 at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. Approximately 150 Marines and sailors with 3rd MAW deployed to Iraq the same day. *Photo by Cpl. Paul Leicht*

3rd MAW Marines, sailors deploy to Iraq

Story compiled by CPAO

MCAS Miramar PAO

Approximately 150 Marines and sailors with the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing deployed to Iraq Feb. 11 from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

The service members were from elements of Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 3, 3rd MAW, and other elements of 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. They deployed to the Central Command Area of Operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Third MAW is the aviation combat element of I MEF.

With family and friends to wish them farewell and a safe journey, the service members prepared to fulfill 3rd MAW's mission in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom

The service members will soon join other 3rd MAW personnel already in Iraq who took over responsibility for the aviation element in Al Anbar Province in western Iraq Feb. 7.



Marines and sailors with the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing bid farewell to family and friends Feb. 11 at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., before embarking on their deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Robert W. Beaver*

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re-examine the roles DoD could foreseeably be asked to carry out following a disaster and what resources might be needed to support that effort.

The GAO report echoes many of McHale's recommendations, including one to further define and leverage military capabilities that could be needed in a major catastrophe in the planning process.

"More detailed planning would provide greater visibility and understanding of the types of support DoD will be expected to provide following a catastrophic incident including the types of assistance and capabilities that might be provided, what might be done proactively and in response to specific requests, and how the efforts of the active duty and the National Guard would be integrated," the report said.

Like McHale's and the GAO reports, Honore's recommendations focused heavily on planning before a catastrophe to ensure a more efficient response when one occurs.

HMM-161 completes 50,000-hour milestone

Story by Cpl. James D. Hamel

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing

AL TAQADDUM, Iraq – The emphasis on operational safety keeps growing in the modern Marine aviation community, but even in such a safety-conscious environment, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161 stands out as it recently celebrated its 50,000th "Class A" mishap-free hour.

The CH-46 Sea Knight squadron based at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., worked on the milestone for more than a decade. "Class A" mishaps are defined as those in which a life is lost or any damage incurred during an aviation accident is more than \$1 million. The "Greyhawks" hit the 50,000-hour mark during their deployment to Al Taqaddum, Iraq, where its primary mission is evacuating injured coalition forces from the battlefield.

Capt. Steven M. Clifton, aviation safety officer, HMM-161, Marine Aircraft Group 16, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), said that in his line of work, mission accomplishment and safety are mutually inclusive: you can't have one without the other.

"Our mission out here is to bring casualties from the point of injury or aid stations to more capable medical facilities," said Clifton, a DeKalb, Ill., native. "If you don't do that safely, you've failed both your crew and the individual in need of medical care."

The first hour of the milestone was logged Feb. 19, 1995, before many of the squadron's current members could call themselves Marines.

The unit continued to build on its record of safety during training exercises at home and multiple deployments with various Marine Expeditionary Units. In Iraq, they added 9,100 more hours during three combat deployments, including their most recent flights that put them over the 50,000 mark.

"The overwhelming majority



A flightline mechanic signals a CH-46E Sea Knight pilot as he taxis to his takeoff point further down a runway in the twilight hours of April 5, 2004. The helicopter's aircrew received a call for casualty evacuation in one of the cities of the Sunni Triangle. The helicopter and crew belong to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161, Marine Aircraft Group 16, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., and recently reached a hallmark achievement of 50,000 mishap-free "Class A" flight hours. *Photo by Sgt. Nathan K. LaForte*

"The overwhelming majority of flight hours this squadron has flown during the last three years have been in a combat environment."

Maj. James D. Hill, executive officer, HMM-161

of flight hours this squadron has flown during the last three years have been in a combat environment," said Maj. James D. Hill, executive officer, HMM-161. "We fly an incredibly high operational tempo here in Iraq, and the fact we can (do that) safely is a testament to the dedication and focus of our Marines."

While the squadron's outstanding safety record began 11 years ago, the aircraft that helped them

obtain that record are more than 40 years old. An older aircraft, flown often in a harsh Iraqi climate, presents a formidable maintenance challenge, but Cpl. James R. Bearb said the maintenance is actually easier than some might expect

"These aircraft were designed to fly, and the more they sit around, the more problems come up," said Bearb, a Houston native. "It may seem strange, but when the aircraft is flying, all of the systems are being utilized, so the problems don't occur as much as one would think."

Sgt. Jason G. Hernandez, a flightline mechanic with HMM-161 and native of Orangepark, Fla., said he and his comrades were well prepared for the challenges of Iraq.

"With all the training we had prior to this deployment, (maintenance) has seemed a little less difficult," he said. "We are constantly doing detailed maintenance to keep us going."

As the squadron nears the end of its deployment, Hill said the Greyhawks are anticipating their homecoming without losing their focus on the task at hand.

Bearb said he felt great to be part of an aviation legacy that is 10 years in the making and still going strong. As the squadron continues its important work, the members hope that a decade from now, a new generation of Greyhawks will be celebrating another milestone.

"The command is extremely proud of each and every dedicated professional in this squadron, and we are excited to celebrate such an important milestone together," said Hill. "From the Marines who maintain the aircraft, to the support personnel who keep the squadron humming, every one of our Marines and sailors play a significant role in our squadron's success."

Volunteer program looking for new members

Story by Lance Cpl. Robert W. Beaver

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

Miramar's volunteer program is looking for active-duty Marines, sailors and their family members who want to take part in something that positively affects the community and the environment.

The program members are actively involved with the San Diego community on a weekly basis excluding holidays.

The volunteers have participated in many environmental clean-ups at areas such as beaches and trails.

Staff Sgt. Melissa K. Estrada, career retention specialist, Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 3, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, organized the program in November 2005.

Estrada was an active volunteer to the community during her deployment to Okinawa, Japan. She found volunteering to be a rewarding way to see the community as well as an opportunity to meet new

"This gives the volunteers a chance to

Estrada. "It's also a good way to establish networks or make new friends."

Estrada said that the San Diego community is highly appreciative of the contributions that are made by the volunteers.

"The people love it when the Marines come out to help," said Estrada. "It feels good to have people praise and thank you for your support. We even had a standing ovation at one of the events that we attended."

The contributions that the volunteers provide affect the reputation of the military throughout the San Diego community.

"Any work that we do in the community has a positive reflection on the Marine Corps," said Estrada. "Volunteering shows the community that we care about

Included with the sense of self-accomplishment, volunteers can also earn awards for the selfless service they contributed to the community.

Estrada maintains and submits records for every volunteer to ensure they receive recognition for their contributions.

The President's Volunteer Service Award is a presidential recognition program for Americans of all ages. The award is given to individuals, families and groups for demonstrating outstanding volunteer service to the community over a 12-month period. The award is based on the amount of hours contributed and the requirement is different for all age groups.

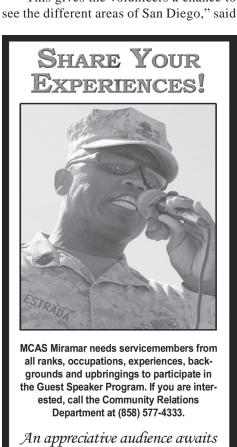
Estrada said the president has hand delivered the award to some of the recipi-

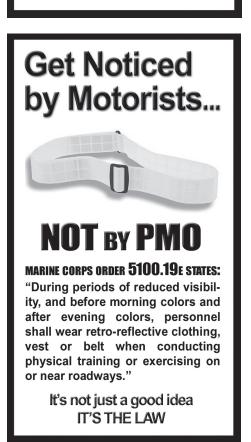
The recipients receive an official President's Volunteer Service Award pin, a personalized certificate of achievement, a note of congratulations from the president as well as a letter from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participa-

Service members can also be awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for sustaining outstanding volunteer contributions for the community.

The service must be significant in nature and produce tangible results while reflecting positively on the military and the Department of Defense. There is no specific amount of hours required to obtain

If interested in volunteering with the program, call (858) 577-7349.





Miramar firefighters help orphans in Mexico

Story by Cpl. Skye Jones

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

What started out as a one-time community service project has turned into an ongoing partnership for Marine Corps Air Station Miramar's firefighters.

Every year Miramar's Fire Department supports a family in need for their annual adopt-a-family program, and this past holiday season the department decided to adopt their biggest family to date — approximately 70 children.

Chris Hilde, firefighter, MCAS Miramar, still keeps in touch with the Casa Hogar Belen Orphanage, which is located in Tijuana, Mexico. He regularly makes personal visits to the orphanage, bringing with him toys, day-to-day living essentials and a big heart.

"Giving doesn't stop after the holiday season," said Hilde, a Ladera Ranch, Calif., native. "Donating our time and efforts to the orphanage is just an extension of our regular job duties, and this taste of gifts and giving is needed for these children year-round."

Many children at Casa Hogar Belen were either abandoned, came from dysfunctional families, or were physically, sexually and psychologically abused.

The orphanage receives no support from the Mexican government and relies on the financial support from churches and other organizations for food, diapers and other supplies, said Ana Britta, volunteer assistant, Casa Hogar Belen

"We are very thankful to Chris and the whole fire department," said Britta. "This was the first time that any fire department has gotten involved in our ministry, and they blessed us with so many things that we needed. When Chris arrived here for the first time, the children ran to the gate and started yelling 'the firemen arrived, the firemen arrived.' They really admire him and the rest of the department. We are all very grateful."

Hilde recommended the orphanage to fellow firefighter, Robert Diaz, originator of the department's adopt-afamily-program, after visiting Casa Hogar Belen with his family and church group.

Soon Diaz was making contacts with local vendors, including Miramar's Commissary and Exchange for food, TVs and other invaluable items to donate to the orphanage. Miramar's firefighters also pitched in, contributing toys and daily items like shampoo, hygiene items and clothes.

"We're in a position to help out as a firefighter," said Diaz. "People tend to rally around us, and we could use that to our advantage to do something good. I'm proud of Chris and the guys for helping out. It's great that everyone can gather together for a project like this."



Chris Hilde, firefighter, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, stands in the background amongst the children at Casa Hogar Belen Orphanage, in Tijuana, Mexico, after handing out toys Dec. 10, 2005. Though Miramar's Fire Department adopted the orphanage for the holidays, Hilde plans on visiting again. *Photo courtesy of MCAS Miramar Fire Department*

Britta couldn't be more thankful to Miramar's firefighters for working as a team to support the orphanage.

"I definitely believe that a b ond has

been built between the firefighters and our children," said Britta. "Miramar's firefighters were truly our Santa Claus this past Christmas, and they still are."

Feature



Israel Mendoza (left), a volunteer at Casa Hogar Belen Orphanage, in Tijuana, Mexico, helps Chris Hilde, firefighter, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, carry a TV that was donated to the orphanage from the Miramar Exchange Dec. 10, 2005. *Photo courtesy of MCAS Miramar Fire Department*



Chris Hilde, firefighter, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, hides in the background while the children at Casa Hogar Belen Orphanage, in Tijuana, Mexico, lift up their hands in excitement after receiving donated presents Dec. 10, 2005. *Photo courtesy of MCAS Miramar Fire Department*



A boy from the Casa Hogar Belen Orphanage, in Tijuana, Mexico, tries on a fire hat that Miramar's Fire Department delivered Dec. 10, 2005. With the help of Miramar's Exchange and Commissary, the department donated diapers, footballs, food and other essential goods to the approximate 70 children at the orphanage. *Photo courtesy of MCAS Miramar Fire Department*

GSE keeps tools in aircraft mechanics' hands

Story by Staff Sgt. Raymie G. Cruz

3rd Marine Aircraft Wing

AL ASAD, Iraq – As Marines carry out flight missions in the Iraqi desert, an essential part of operations is constant maintenance of the aircraft using specialized tools, vehicles and mobile electric power plants.

Ground Support Equipment Marines with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16, Marine Aircraft Group 16, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, are tasked with the demanding job of preserving and providing the vital maintenance gear needed by aircraft mechanics to keep 14 aviation squadrons flying.

"Without us out here, maintaining and moving equipment around and doing our part, the mechanics would not be able to do theirs," said Lance Cpl. Courtney E. Hall-Mullen, GSE tool room manager. "We work 12-hour shifts, but usually stay late to ensure tools are cleaned, and if they are worn, they are turned in to quality assurance to be replaced. It's not glamorous, but we do our part and that helps keep the aircraft flying."

The Marines with GSE are part of the Fleet Assistance Program and come from different logistic squadrons throughout the United States to support the squadrons stationed at Al Asad.

"We have a good group of Marines here," said Gunnery Sgt. Robert Owens, GSE staff noncommissioned officer-incharge. "We went through all the MALS in the states and told them what types of Marines we needed. We came to Iraq with the best shop we could ask for."

Some Marines with MALS-16 are sent to flying squadrons on the flight line to manage equipment checked out from GSE by the squadrons.

"I was 'FAPed' from MALS-16 to Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 466 to repair and maintain the equipment the squadron needs," said Lance Cpl. Gregory B. Williams, a GSE mechanic and San Diego native. "It makes



Cpl. Leonard V. Peralta removes the engine head from an aircraft tow tractor due to sheared off power steering bolts. Ground Support Equipment maintains and provides the vital gear needed by aircraft mechanics to keep 14 aviation squadrons flying. Peralta is a GSE mechanic, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16, Marine Aircraft Group 16, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. *Photo by Staff Sgt. Raymie G. Cruz*

it easier for us to maintain the equipment if there is one of us right on the flight line."

The Marines from GSE repair and maintain machinery and tools for an assortment of aircraft to include cargo planes, helicopters and fighter attack jets in the country.

"Each aircraft has equipment that is specific to it, and we ensure the Marines working on it get what they need," said Hall-Mullen, a native of Benton City, Wash. "After all, what is a mechanic without his tools?"

According to Owens, an Albuquerque, N.M., native, GSE supports all Forward Operating Bases and Forward Arming and Refueling Points throughout Iraq.

"As long as flights are going out, there is a constant need for maintenance, and we will be here waiting for the call," said Cpl. Leonard V. Peralta, a GSE mechanic from Norfolk, Va.

A father and son prepare to cast their lines Feb. 11 during the Outdoor Center's Family Fishing Derby at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. *Photo by Cpl. Paul Leicht*

Miramar hosts Family Fishing Derby weekend



Marines, family members and friends dig out their fishing poles Feb. 11 during the Outdoor Adventure Center's Family Fishing Derby at the Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Fish Pond. The fishing event featured food and prizes for the wackiest fishing hats, the biggest fish and the craziest team name. For more information about the Outdoor Adventure Center, call 577-4150. *Photo by Cpl. Paul Leicht*

3rd LAAD Marine receives medal for heroism

Story by Cpl. Paul Leicht

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – It started as just another day in the Marine Corps. For a small group of Marines holding a morning formation at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa, Japan, the sight of a CH-53D flying in the vicinity was nothing out of the ordinary. Then suddenly the aircraft lost its tail rotor, went into a flat spin and plummeted to the ground just outside the station perimeter in nearby Ginowan City.

Witnessing the crash, the Marines broke formation and rushed to scale the air station's perimeter barbed-wire fences nearby to reach the crash site and help those at the scene.

A handful made it before anyone else and, while risking their own lives, saved the lives of others. Lance Cpl. Matthew A. Glock was one of them.

In a formal ceremony here Feb. 10 during the early morning hours outside 3rd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion headquarters area, Col. Mark G. Cianciolo, commanding officer, Marine Air Control Group 38, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, presented the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroism in peacetime actions to Glock, a low altitude air defense gunner with Company B, 3rd LAAD, MACG-38, 3rd MAW, for his actions on that fateful day Aug. 13, 2004.

While serving as a LAAD gunner with 1st Stinger Battery, MACG-18, 1st MAW, Glock and three of his fellow Marines helped pull three injured aircrew out of the wreckage of the crashed CH-53D.

We broke through the window and one of the pilot's hands was trapped behind his seat," remembered Glock, a native of Aurora, Colo, who joined the Marine Corps upon graduation from high school in 2002. "Lance Cpl. Teague was on the other side with another Marine. We really didn't think about it when we were doing it, but afterwards it was kind of surreal. The lieutenant that I helped pull out of the aircraft was barely conscious. He was still chewing on his gum and after we sat him down away from the aircraft he spat it out and said 'Well, at least I still got my gum!' I guess they are superstitious about that sort of thing, but you could see just how messed up he and the captain aboard were from the crash."

Just moments after removing the injured Marines the aircraft exploded in a ball of fire.

In addition to Glock, the three other Marines who were first on the scene and helped rescue the crew were Cpl. Thomas M. Joyce, Sgt. Richard B. Cline and Lance Cpl. Christopher A. Teague. Teague currently serves alongside Glock with 3rd LAAD.

"Both of these Marines standing before you today, Lance Cpl. Glock and Lance Cpl. Teague, were two of the Marines of 1st Stinger Battery who responded," said Cianciolo. "They not only ran to the scene, but in the process vaulted two perimeter fences. For those of you who have been to Oki they are quite high. What (Glock's) citation doesn't mention is that the aircraft was already on fire when they entered that aircraft to rescue the downed crew. Both these Marines epitomize what it means to be a Marine."

In August 2004, Glock received orders to 3rd LAAD. While with 3rd LAAD, Glock has been selected for Marine of the Quarter, was nominated for two meritorious corporal boards and has completed several Military Occupational Specialty courses.

"He is a great Marine and for what he and those other Marines did in helping those injured

Marines in that crash is just outstanding," said Sgt. Maj. Roger E. Jenness, sergeant major, 3rd LAAD.

Since World War II the Navy and Marine Corps Medal — worn in precedence after the Distinguished Flying Cross and before the Bronze Star Medal — is commonly awarded to service members who, while serving in any capacity with the Navy or Marine Corps, distinguish themselves by heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy. For acts of lifesaving, or attempted lifesaving, it is required that the action be performed at the risk of one's own life.

"We hear it all the time, we read about it in the history books, we hear incredible stories of self sacrifice, suffering that goes into distinguishing themselves in combat and in peacetime as in this situation," said Cianciolo. "Marines are known for putting themselves on the line in order to save not only a fellow Marine but anyone who is in harms way. These Marines not only saved the aircrew, but they played a major role in sanitizing the area by helping to put up a perimeter around the building so locals were not injured. It's a real honor for me to come here and honor Lance Cpl. Glock today and I know that Lance Cpl. Teague will also be recognized in due time for his heroic actions on that day as well. On behalf of a grateful nation it is a real honor for me to be here today."

Though Glock and his fellow 3rd LAAD Marines share a special camaraderie and sense of brotherhood, in early 2006 Glock was selected to attend Marine Security Guard School in Quantico, Va. He is due to report there in early March.

"He'll be out there as one of our many ambassadors for the Marine Corps serving aboard at an American embassy," said Cianciolo. "It's a special day for him today, and we're glad to be able to recognize his heroic action."

Glock said he has always wanted to serve as a Marine Security Guard and hopes to be stationed in Europe. Although average in stature and build, Glock is extraordinary in his unassuming nature and heroism.

"It was a complete shock to see the helicopter go down like that," said Glock. "For all the other Marines who were out there and helped, they know who they are and we all worked together to help rescue those Marines. I am just happy that we were there to help out."



Lance Cpl. Matthew A. Glock (left), a low altitude air defense gunner with Company B, 3rd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion, Marine Air Control Group 38, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, shakes hands with a fellow Marine after being presented with the Navy and Marine Corps Medal Feb. 10 at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Photo by Cpl. Paul Leicht



Lance Cpl. Matthew A. Glock, a low altitude air defense gunner with Company B, 3rd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion, Marine Air Control Group 38, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroism in peacetime actions Feb. 10 in a formal ceremony during the early morning hours outside 3rd LAAD headquarters area at Camp Pendleton, Calif. *Photo by Cpl. Paul Leicht*



Col. Mark G. Cianciolo (right), commanding officer, Marine Air Control Group 38, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, addresses the Marines of 3rd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion, MACG-38, 3rd MAW, after presenting the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroism in peacetime actions Feb. 10 to Lance Cpl. Matthew A. Glock (center), a low altitude air defense gunner with Company B, 3rd LAAD, in a formal ceremony during the early morning hours outside the 3rd LAAD headquarters area at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Glock, while serving as a gunner with 1st Stinger Battery, MACG-18, 1st MAW, and three other Marines including Lance Cpl. Christopher A. Teague (left) helped save the lives of three injured Marine aircrew Aug. 13, 2004, after pulling them out of the wreckage of their crashed CH-53D which was still on fire after slamming into the ground. *Photo by Cpl. Paul Leicht*

Miramar Movies

The Bob Hope Theater is located in Building 2242, and will be featuring the following movies. Outside food and drinks are not permitted. For more information, call 577-4143 or log on to www.mccsmiramar.com.

Friday:

6:30 p.m. The Family Stone (PG-13) 10:00 p.m. Fun With Dick And Jane (PG-13)

Saturday:

6:30 p.m. Rumor Has It (PG-13) 9:00 p.m. King Kong (PG-13)

Sunday:

1:00 p.m. *Cheaper By The Dozen 2 (PG) 6:30 p.m. *King Kong (PG-13)

Wednesday:

6:30 p.m. Munich (R)

Thursday:

2:00 p.m. Hoodwinked (PG) 6:30 p.m. *The Family Stone (PG-13)

* Indicates the last showing for that film

Military Tax Center

The Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Tax Center is now open, providing service members and their families with free tax services.

The center is located at Building 6250 and is open Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Hours of operation will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. when the tax season nears its end April 15.

Religious Services

The Chaplain's Office is located in Building 5632 and coordinates regularly-scheduled worship services. For the location and meeting schedules of religious activities, contact the Chaplain's Office at 577-1333.

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Protestant worship service 11 a.m. Roman Catholic Eucharist **Wednesday:**

7 p.m. Baptist service *Monday-Friday:*

11:30 a.m. Roman Catholic daily mass

Jewish:

7 p.m. First Friday of the month MCRD 7:30 p.m. Last Friday at Edson Range Chapel

Mom or Dad Deployed?

The Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Youth and Teen Center is hosting a gathering for children of deployed Marines and sailors every second and fourth Monday of each month, starting this Monday. Ages 8 to 10 meet from 3:30 to 4:15, ages 11 to 13 meet from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30. For more information call 577-1322.

Presidents Day Sale

The Navy Marine Corps Relief Society Thrift Store aboard Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, located in Building 6275, will hold a Presidents Day Sale tomorrow from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. An "early bird" sale begins in the parking lot at 9:30 a.m.

Featured sale items include fine jewelry, vintage uniforms and many other items.

DeCA scholarships available

The Defense Commissary Agency's Scholarships for Military Children Program is in its sixth year and the deadline for submission is Feb. 22.

Last year there were 500 scholarships awarded, each in the amount of \$1,500, throughout DeCAs 268 commissaries worldwide. More than \$3.2 million in scholarships have been awarded since the program began.

Applicants are required to write and submit an essay on why they admire a great past or present military leader. More than one scholarship per commissary may be awarded.

For more information or an application, visit www.commissaries.com or www.militaryscholar.org.

Impounded Vehicles

The following vehicles have been impounded and need to be claimed by the owners. Towing fees average \$113, storage fees \$28 daily. For more information contact the Provost Marshal's Office at 577-1461.

Vehicle:	License:	Vehicle:	License:
1994 Pontiac Grand Am	CA/3STS043	Unk. Dodge RV	CA/4JVJ367
1994 Nissan Maxima	TX/X26MFL	1973 Chevy Nova	TX/447CVJ
2000 Mitsubishi Galant	CA/3TQY718	1987 Toyota Celica	CA/2GUH953
1984 Chevy Corvette	CO/754JZW	1973 Datsun 240Z	CA/4RGC082
1990 Chrysler New Yorker	WI/402CPD	2001 Ford Focus	CA/5NYB483
1997 Ford Mustang	CA/3WAL501	1987 Dodge Colt	CA/2PTS599